in opposite directions with the motion of stage 201 having a bigger amplitude. Thus, a trajectory or motion profile of stage 201 and base 202 can be determined and follows a pattern such as shown in Figs. 3A and 3B, respectively. For example, as illustrated in Fig. 5A, if stage 201 weighs 50 kg and base 202 weighs 500 kg, when stage 201 moves 100 mm to the left along the x axis, base 202 will move 10 mm to the right along the x axis, and accordingly base 202 will be accelerated at a rate of $1/10^{th}$ of the acceleration rate of stage 201.

Page 14, please amend the paragraph beginning with "According to a second principle" and bridging pages 14 and 15 to read as follows:

(Amended) According to a second principle of the present invention, actuators 260 may act like a passive spring and/or damper. In one embodiment according to the second principal, a plurality of passive springs and/or dampers (not shown) indeed may be used as actuators 260. Particularly, according to the second principal, the combined center of gravity of stage 201 and base 202 does move, and thus, actuators 260 do apply ground force F_g on the ground 82 or apparatus frame 72. However, the stage assembly 200, due to its movable base 202, reduces the magnitude of the motion of the combined center of gravity and the magnitude of ground force F_g, which thereby makes the stage assembly 200 consistent with the second principal of the present invention operate smoother.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com